treatment of addictive diseases (United States Patent No. 5,198,230, 1993); use as a remedy for anemia and arthritis (United States Patent No. 4,767,626, 1988); use in a cream to enhance male sexual function (Japan Patent No. 06211678JP, 1994); and use as a hair tonic (Japan Patent No.05201833JP, 1993).

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 14, 18 and 20.

13. (amended) A method for the isolation and purification of an isoquinoline alkaloid selected from an aporphine or benzophenanthridine alkaloid from a plant; said method comprising:

(a) extraction of a ground biomass of a plant containing aporphine or benzophenanthridine alkaloids with a solvent;

(b) neutralization and concentration of the neutralized extract; and

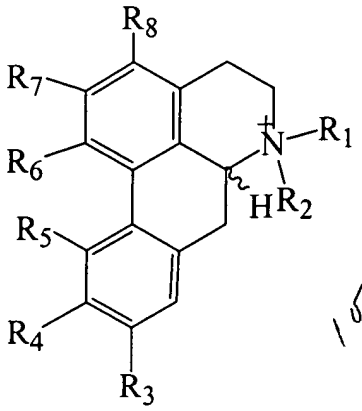
(c) purification of said extract by a chromatographic method.

17. (amended) The method in claim 13 wherein the biomass is extracted in a vat extractor.

19. (amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the biomass is extracted in a column extractor.

21. (amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said chromatographic method is selected from ion exchange chromatography, absorption chromatography, reverse phase chromatography, size exclusive chromatography, ultra-filtration or a combination of two or more of these methods.

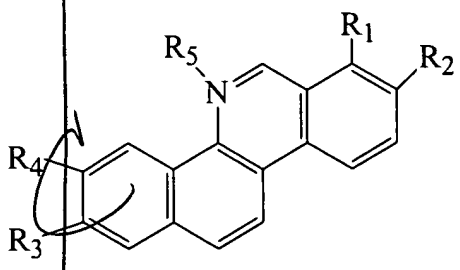
22. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein said aporphine alkaloid is selected from the group of compounds having the following structure:



wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, alkenyl or substituted alkenyl; R_3 , R_4, R_5 , R_6, R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, hydroxy, thiol, methoxy, methyl sulfide, methylenedioxy, alkoxy, alkyl sulfide; and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts, selected from the group consisting of chloride, iodide, fluoride, sulfate, phosphate, acetate or carbonate and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier thereof.

23. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein said aporphine alkaloid is selected from Magnoflorine or Laurifoline.

24. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein said benzophenanthridine alkaloid is selected from the group of compounds having the following structure:



wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, hydroxy, alkoxy, methoxy, methylenedioxy, thiol, methyl sulfide and alkyl sulfide; and R_5 is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, alkenyl and